



### **TO THE READER:**

This is the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed rule order WM-05-03 authorizing control efforts to eliminate Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) where it exists in the state and protect the rest of Wisconsin's statewide deer herd from CWD. This rule describes the Department of Natural Resources' proposed management actions and tools that may be used to control CWD in Wisconsin including depopulating CWD infected areas, reducing the deer herd in areas surrounding CWD infected areas, and banning baiting and feeding statewide to control the disease.

The EIS has been prepared to meet the requirements of the Wisconsin Environmental Policy Act (WEPA) and Ch. NR 150, Wisconsin Administrative Code. The purpose of the EIS is to explain the environmental effects of the proposed rule to decision-makers and the public. The EIS is made available for public review and comment for approximately six weeks (14 February to 31 March). The EIS is available for public review at libraries, all Department Regional Offices, and on the Department web site:

**<http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/wildlife/whealth/issues/cwd/>**

In addition, 16 public hearings will be held around the state to gather public comments. Information gathered through the EIS process will be considered before the Department makes its final decision about the rule.

**Comments and questions should be sent to the following address by Friday, 31 March 2003:**

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